

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 10, beginning at line 17 and ending at line 29 with the following amended paragraph:

"The following describes the major elements of the linecard architecture of the present invention in greater detail. While the disclosed apparatus and method of use may be embodied in a computer system apparatus (i.e., hardware), one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that other embodiments in the form of computer readable instructions such as software or firmware for carrying out the disclosed method are equally possible. Accordingly, the present invention is not limited to a particular hardware form of computer system or apparatus. Thus, in one alternate embodiment the present invention is realized in computer instructions for carrying out the disclosed method on a general purpose digital computer. In a further alternate embodiment of the present invention, a computer readable storage medium comprising the above-mentioned computer instructions is provided. ~~In a still further alternate embodiment, a computer readable carrier wave comprising computer instructions for carrying out the disclosed method is provided.~~